

Let's put some energy into this Earth Day

Think globally, act locally! Most BPA employees have heard the phrase or seen the bumper sticker in years past. And it's a pretty sure bet that many, if not all of us, do at least one thing to benefit the earth.

Some BPA employees have the earth-friendly lifestyle down pat. They bike to work, ride the bus or carpool, recycle their sandwich bags, do their laundry during non-peak hours, compost their yard debris . . . in essence, they're *with it*, baby.

Then there are those employees for whom it's all one can do just to remember to get the recycling bins to the curb.

Well, whether you're the master of eco-friendliness or just another person doing what you can, here's an opportunity for you to up your ante in the clean earth game.

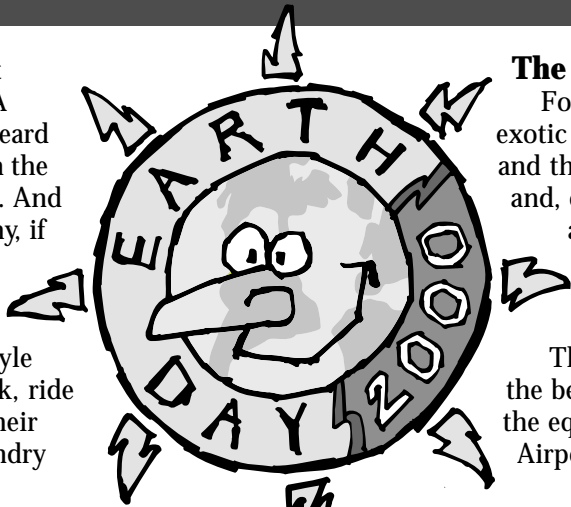
Earth Day is Sat., April 22. The theme for this year is "Clean Energy Now!" Usually, when Earth Day rolls around posters appear on bulletin boards of federal buildings and employees participate in local clean ups. Ho hum!

This year, we're giving Earth Day an energy boost. We're asking for more – more participation, more commitment, more fun. More fun?

That's right. This year we're asking you and your families to have fun and experiment. Adopt a new behavior. Get out and do something you've never done before to support clean energy.

Oh, *excuse me*. Who are we? We are your friendly BPA Earth Day committee. We've ginned up a host of activities we think will tickle your fancy, help the earth and provide you and yours a compost pile full of fun.

So here are some suggestions for starters.



The standard clean up(s)

For those who like to travel to exotic lands, mingle with the flora and the fauna, get your hands dirty and, of course, get out of work for a while, we present to you a no-expenses paid trip to . . . you guessed it, the Sandy River Delta!

This scenic area nestled next to the beautiful Columbia River and the equally beautiful Troutdale Airport is the perfect place to

express your Earth Day commitment. Here BPA and the Friends of Trees are joining forces to plant oak trees within the 1400-acre parcel. These trees will suck up the pollutants in our air and replace

them with good ole oxygen. P-Day (planting day) is scheduled for Wed., April 19.

Our illustrious federal rules and regulations are granting a whopping four hours of administrative leave, so plant those trees fast. You don't have much time. Contact Cheri Larson at (503) 230-3325 for more info.

The annual project at the Ross Complex again involves the Ellen Davis Trail. A favorite of Ross employees, the trail meanders through about three miles of lush forested and paved lands of the complex. The trail offers a welcome respite from the eggshell white walls and blaring florescent photons bombarding Transmission and other employees who work there.

On April 14, BPA employees and members of Friends of Trees will plant 100 trees at Ross. The trees include a mix of deciduous and evergreens that are compatible near power line routes. The trees will line part of 15th Ave. where it runs into Ross Road, away from the power lines, and then follow the Ellen Davis Trail along Ross Road to

54th St. Contact Paul Martin, (360) 418-2072, or Mike Conners, 418-8023, for more info.

Employees in the field can get involved too. How? Make it up! The theme *Clean Energy Now!* should be seen as a war cry. Adopt a stream, a road, or a rest stop for a year.

Plant a tree in your backyard. Form a neighborhood clean up in your community. Get all your coworkers together and find a way to reduce the number of cars you use at work. The list is endless. Be creative.

Take the clean energy challenge

OK, so you're tired of using that minuscule amount of administrative leave to go home early and you really want to do your part for Earth Day. But you regard cleanups and tree planting as work for wimps. If you think you've got what it takes, take on the Earth Day Clean Energy Challenge.

What is the Energy Challenge? Glad you asked. Cheri Larson, who works in Corporate Communications, has the answers. "The Earth Day Challenge is a list of easy to adopt, everyday behaviors that can add up to making a big difference for the planet," Larson says. "They are also activities the whole family can participate in."

Here's how it works. First pick up a pledge card that lists all the activities included in the challenge. You can use the pledge card on the Intranet at the virtual Pledge Central at: <http://webip1/Corporate/KCC/earthday2000.shtml>. We will print the pledge card in the April *Circuit*.

Next, take the pledge card home and collaborate with your family to choose as many activities from the challenge menu as you want to do for the Challenge Week. Activities must be things individuals or families are *not* currently doing (this is about experimenting with new earth-friendly behaviors, remember?).

Fill out the pledge form and return it to KCC-7 attn: Cheri Larson by April 14. Then do those things during the week of April 17 to 22.

It's that easy. BPA's Earth Day committee will publish the total energy savings that result from the challenge and the other Earth Day activities. Watch for that on the Monday, April 24 at Earth Day Central in headquarters and on the Intranet.

Take some time over the next few weeks to talk with your family or friends about what you can do for the challenge. Then fill out your pledge card and send it in by mid April.

Perry Gruber is a press officer in corporate communications

A last bite of pizza for the memory of Y2K

Already faint in memory was the New Year's Eve rollover to year 2000 just 10 weeks before. But the folks who worked to help BPA get Y2K ready over the past five years still didn't mind one last get together.

BPA held pizza lunches one last time at Portland and Ross to say thank-you. The good work of several hundred people helped make the century change a "non-event" for Northwest power supplies.

BPA's information systems group received one of half a dozen awards presented by the Department of Energy this year for efficiency and customer service. DOE presented the awards at its Information Technology Quality Awards conference, Jan. 25, in Las Vegas. The award cited the IS group in BPA's Shared Services for cutting operating costs by over 30 percent while keeping an exceptional level of customer service. John Gilligan (left), DOE's chief information officer, presented the award to Gary Van Bommel who heads BPA's IS group.

DOE photo

The late February event at Ross took place in the atrium of the Construction Services Building.

Photos by Jack Odgaard



U.S. DEPT. OF ENERGY
Bonneville Power Administration - KCC-7
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, Oregon 97208-3621
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PORTLAND, OR
PERMIT NO. 2462